

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~An optionally self-propelling~~ A machine for bedding out seed or plant tapes (3) and including a frame (4), where at least one bedding out unit (2) provided with a plough member (6) is mounted on said frame, said machine further including a carrying pole (29) to be connected to the front of a tractor frame (4), and where the plough member (6) is associated with a conveyor (9) including at least one continuous belt, as well as where the bedding out unit (2) is provided with a supporting plate (13) for at least one supply container (14) for the seed or plant tape (3) to be bedded out in a furrow (32) produced by the plough member (6), the bedding out unit (2) including a plough member (6) of a substantially U-shaped cross section, where the top webs of the U are substantially horizontally projecting stabilising webs (7a, 7b), and where said plough member (6) is of a length (L) of at least approximately 30 cm and a width (b) measured across the U of 15 to 50 mm, ~~preferably approximately 30 mm~~, the conveyor of said plough member being formed by an inclined main conveyor (9) with two continuous conveyor belts (10, 11) arranged adjacent, but with a ~~mutual, preferably adjustable~~ distance (a) to one another, said main conveyor (9) extending over most of, ~~preferably substantially~~ the entire length (L) of the plough member (6), the supporting plate (13) being adjustable with respect to height and/or angle, and at least two pressure wheels (16a, 16b) being mounted on the rear end (2b) of the machine for pressing down the earth around the seed or plant tape portion which has just been bedded out in the furrow (32), characterised in that a pre-conveyor (16) is placed between the supporting plate (13) for the supply container (14) and the main conveyor (9), said pre-conveyor being adapted to run at a speed slightly slower than the speed of the main conveyor (9), and that said pre-conveyor (16) is mounted on a slide (17) reciprocable in the longitudinal direction of the machine.

Claim 2 (currently amended): Machine as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that a pair of co-acting separation rollers (18a, 18b) are mounted between the main conveyor (9) and the pre-conveyor (16), ~~where preferably one or the other or both separation rollers include at least one separation rib (19)~~, and that the peripheral speed of the separation rollers correspond substantially to the advancing speed of the main conveyor.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Machine as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterised in that a knife is mounted between the main conveyor (9) and the pre-conveyor (16) for cutting the seed or plant tape (3) into small tape pieces, where each tape piece includes one or more seeds.

Claim 4 (currently amended): Machine as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that the main conveyor (9) includes two driving rollers (9a, 9b) and two tightening rollers (9a', 9b') arranged adjacent one another, as well as two continuous conveyor belts (11, 10) extending around their respective free guiding webs (21a, 21b) of a profile guideway (21) presenting a substantially U-shaped cross section.

Claim 5 (currently amended): Machine as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterised in that the profile guideway (21) of the conveyor (9) at the bottom web (21c) of its U-shaped cross section is hinged (25) to the bottom web (7c) of the U-shaped cross section of the plough member (6).

Claim 6 (currently amended): Machine as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterised in that the conveyor belts (10, 11) of the continuous conveyors are made of plastics or textile presenting a high strength, and on the side facing the seed or plant tape or portions thereof these conveyor belts present a rough surface, ~~said side for instance being coated with emery or be provided with small friction producing projections made of rubber or plastics.~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): Machine as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterised in that two auxiliary rollers (12a, 12b) are arranged at the rear end (2b) of the profile guideway (21), where the conveyor belts (10, 11) of the main conveyor (9'a) can run around their 5 respective auxiliary rollers.

Claim 8 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it is self-propelled.

Claim 9 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein said width (b) is approximately 30 mm.

Claim 10 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein said distance (a) is adjustable.

Claim 11 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein said main conveyor (a) extends over the entire length (L) of the plough member (6).

Claim 12 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the separation rollers includes at least one separation rib (19).

Claim 13 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein said rough surface is coated with emery or provided with friction-producing projections.

Claim 14 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 13, wherein said projections comprise natural rubber or plastic.

Claim 15 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that a knife is mounted between the main conveyor (9) and the pre-conveyor (16) for cutting the seed or plant tape (3) into small tape pieces, where each tape piece includes one or more seeds.

Claim 16 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that the main conveyor (9) includes two driving rollers (9a, 9b) and two tightening rollers (9a', 9b') arranged adjacent one another, as well as two continuous conveyor belts (11, 10) extending around their respective free guiding webs (21a, 21b) of a profile guideway (21) presenting a substantially U-shaped cross section.

Claim 17 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that the profile guideway (21) of the conveyor (9) at the bottom web (21c) of its U-shaped cross section is hinged (25) to the bottom web (7c) of the U-shaped cross section of the plough member (6).

Claim 18 (new): Machine as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that the conveyor belts (10, 11) of the continuous conveyors are made of plastics or textile presenting a high strength, and on the side facing the seed or plant tape or portions thereof these conveyor belts present a rough surface.